

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 OC-06 CCO-00 SCI-06 NASA-04 EB-11 OTPE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 COME-00 FCC-03 /123 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7373

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

JCS WASHDC

DCA WASHDC

DCA EUROPE

USCINCEUR

CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

COMICEDEFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4721

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-80

TAGS: ETEL MARR NATO

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OFNATO SATCOM GROUND TERMINAL ICELAND

REF: A. USNATO 332 DTG 221732Z JAN 74

B. STATE 029046 DTG 130000Z FEB 74

1. BASED ON INFORMAL NICSMA REQUEST, WE RAISED ISSUE OF US SUPPORT OF PROPOSED NATO SATCOM GROUND TERMINAL (SGT) IN ICELAND (REF A). IN REF B, WASHINGTON STATED THAT US WAS NOT PREPARED TO INITIATE ACTION AT THIS TIME BUT NOTED INSTALLATION WOULD BE USEFUL, IF AT SOME POINT GROUND STATION WERE BUILT.

2. IN LETTER TO MISSION OF AUGUST 30, MACBRIEN(NATO DIRECTOR, CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS) REQUESTS US INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITIES, INCLUDING CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH UNITED STATES WOULD ACCEPT CONSTRUCTION AND MANNING OF SGT ON SITE OF US BASE AT KEFLAVIK. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS.

BETIN TEXT:

1. ATTACHED IS A PHOTOCOPY OF A LETTER WHICH THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ICELAND FORWARDED TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NICSMA SOME TIME AGO. AS YOU WILL SEE, THE ICELANDIC AUTHORITIES HAVE DECIDED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCEPT A SATELLITE GROUND TERMINAL IN ICELAND IF IT MUST BE OPERATED AND MANNED BY NATIONAL PERSONNEL.

2. THE REQUIREMENT FOR SUCH A TERMINAL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO SATISFY BOTH THE MILITARY (SACLANT) AND THE POLITICAL NEEDS. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT COMMUNICATIONS ALREADY EXIST BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES FORCES STATIONED IN ICELAND BUT NO DIRECT COMMUNICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE BETWEEN THE NATO HEADQUARTERS AND REYKJAVIK, THE GREATER IMPORTANCE LIES, IN MY OPINION, IN SATISFYING THE POLITICAL REQUIREMENT. THIS VIEW, I BELIEVE, IS SUPPORTED BY THE FACT THAT THE ICELANDIC AUTHORITIES ASKED US IN THE ATTACHED LETTER TO SEEK ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH A GROUND TERMINAL IN ICELAND.

3. FOR REASONS YOU WILL UNDERSTAND, THIS MATTER HAS NOT BEEN PURSUED ACTIVELY. HOWEVER, AS THE DIRECTOR GENERAL NICSMA MUST KNOW BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR WHETHER TO INCLUDE A SATELLITE GROUND TERMINAL IN ICELAND IN THE PREPARATION OF THE BIDDING DOCUMENTS, I NOW FEEL THAT I HAVE TO ADDRESS THIS MATTER MORE FORMALLY.

4. IF WE ARE TO ESTABLISH A SATCOM GROUND TERMINAL IN ICELAND AT ALL, I SEE NO OTHER POSSIBILITY THAN THAT A SOLUTION BE FOUND WHEREBY THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SATCOM GROUND TERMINAL ON THE SITE OF THE US BASE AT KEFLAVIK, AND IN ADDITION ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE OPERATION AND RESULTANT MANNING.

5. IN ORDER TO ENABLE ME TO FURTHER ADVISE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA AND THE ICELANDIC AMBASSADOR, I WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIDENTIAL

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YOUR INVESTIGATING THE POSSIBILITIES, INCLUDING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES MIGHT ACCEPT SUCH A PROPOSAL. END TEXT.

3. REQUEST GUIDANCE. MCAULIFFE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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TAGS: ETEL MARR NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO REYKJAVIK
JCS
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USCINCEUR
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